



FAFSA timeline for high school seniors

>> November/December

- ☐ **Sign up for your FSA ID.** This will require setting up a username and password.
- ☐ **Check out the FAFSA4Caster** to get an estimate of your Expected Family Contribution or EFC. Your EFC will be used to determine what types of federal grants, loans and work study you may be eligible for.
- ☐ **Research scholarships.** Ask your counselor about local scholarships and check out other scholarship opportunities at fastweb.com, scholarship.com, dhe.mo.gov/resources, facebook.com/journeytocollege, and twitter.com/Journey2College.
- ☐ **Gather tax information** and documents so you are ready to file your FAFSA as soon as possible starting Jan. 1.

>> January/February

- ☐ **Find a FAFSA Frenzy site** near you for free help submitting your FAFSA at dhe.mo.gov/ppc/fafsafrenzyforstudents.php.
- ☐ **Complete your FAFSA** as soon as possible after Jan. 1. You can complete the application online at fafsa.ed.gov.
- ☐ **If you have not filed your 2015 income taxes**, you can submit your FAFSA using estimated tax information from 2014. Just be sure to go back and update your information as soon as you have filed.
- ☐ **Call 1-800 4-FED-AID** for any issues or problems you encounter while completing the FAFSA.
- ☐ **Check with the college** you plan to attend to find out if it has a specific FAFSA filing deadline.

>> March/April

- ☐ **Complete your FAFSA** prior to April 1. Filing after that deadline will make you ineligible for the Access Missouri state grant program.
- ☐ **When you make your final decision** as to what school you will be attending in the fall, be sure to notify the college or university. Most schools need to know by May 1. Ask about any required financial deposits and other deadlines. Also be sure to notify the other schools you applied to, but have chosen not to attend.
- ☐ **If you used estimated tax information**, don't forget to go back and update your FAFSA. You may be eligible to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool.